

Message Text

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41

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-02 PER-05 SSC-01 NSC-07 SS-20 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 A-01 DRC-01 RSC-01 /071 W

----- 002530

R 201350Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6259

UNCLAS CAIRO 2435

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR EG APER (EILTS, HERMANN FREDERICK)

SUBJ: PRESENTATION OF LETTERS OF CREDENCE

REF: CAIRO 2362

1. AT 1310 LOCAL (1110 GMT) TODAY I FORMALLY PRESENTED TO PRESIDENT SADAT MY LETTERS OF CREDENCE. CEREMONY TOOK PLACE IN THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE AT ABDIN PALACE. I WAS TAKEN THERE BY PRESIDENCY CAR ESCORTED BY SIX PRESIDENTIAL GUARD OUTRIDERS AND PRESIDENCE PROTOCOL OFFICIAL. ON ARRIVAL AT PALACE, AN HONOR GUARD OF TROOPS IN DRESS UNIFORM PRESENTED ARMS AND BAND PLAYED U.S. AND EGYPTIAN NATIONAL ANTHEMS.

2. I WAS THEN ESCORTED TO THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE ON THE SECOND FLOOR. HE WAS FLANKED BY ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER HATEM AND CHIEF OF THE PRESIDENCY HASSAN KAMEL. ALSO PRESENT FOR THIS PART OF THE CEREMONY WERE 50-60 NEWSMEN AND TV PHOTOGRAPHERS. PRESIDENCY PROTOCOL EARLIER ADVISED ME NO SPEECHES WERE TO BE MADE AND I SHOULD SIMPLY TELL THE PRESIDENT THAT I WAS PRESENTING MY CREDENTIALS.

3. ACCORDINGLY, I TOLD HIM I WAS HONORED TO PRESENT LETTERS OF CREDENCE SIGNED BY PRESIDENT NIXON ACCREDITING ME AS UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO EGYPT. SPEAKING IN ARABIC, PRESIDENT SADAT EXPRESSED PLEASURE THAT THE RELATIONS UNCLASSIFIED

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BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES ARE NOW BEING STRENGTHENED.

HE SPOKE OF "THE WISDOM OF PRESIDENT NIXON AND THE DILIGENCE OF SECRETARY KISSINGER" AS BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS HAPPY DEVELOPMENT. HE PREDICTED OUR RELATIONS WOULD FLOURISH STILL MORE. PRESS WAS THEN USHERED OUT OF THE ROOM AND THE PRESIDENT, HATEM, KAMEL AND I WERE SEATED FOR A BRIEF TALK. DETAILS BEING REPORTED SEPARATELY.

4. AT A PRE-ARRANGED SIGNAL, I ASKED TO TAKE MY LEAVE. TO THE SURPRISE OF PROTOCOL OFFICIALS, THE PRESIDENT TOOK THE UNUSUAL STEP OF ESCORTING ME OUT OF HIS OFFICE AND ALONG THE CORRIDOR TO THE STAIRCASE WHERE HE SAID GOODBYE. (PROTOCOL OFFICIALS WERE MUCH DISTRESSED SINCE IT MEANT I COULD NOT SIGN THE VISITORS' BOOK AS IS CUSTOMARY.) AS I LEFT THE PALACE, HONOR GUARD AGAIN PRESENTED ARMS AND THE TWO NATIONAL ANTHEMS WERE PLAYED. THE PRESIDENCY PROTOCOL OFFICIAL, TOGETHER WITH THE OUTRIDERS, ACCOMPANIED ME BACK TO THE EMBASSY COMPOUND.

5. COMMENT: AS DEPT IS AWARE, THIS IS THE FIRST OCCASION THAT PRESIDENT SADAT HAS RECEIVED AMBASSADORS' CREDENTIALS SINCE 1971. SEVEN AMBASSADORS WERE RECEIVED TODAY AS FOLLOWS: SIERRA LEONE, NEPAL, JORDAN, TUNISIA, USA, MEXICO AND TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. ORDER BASED ON DATE OF PRESENTATION OF COPIES OF CREDENTIALS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 20 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Drafter: n/a
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